

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 97

January 29, 2009

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires that all newborns be tested for hyperbilirubinemia in addition to current tests for phenylketonuria, hypothyroidism, galactosemia, and other metabolic/generic defects that can result in mental retardation or physical dysfunction.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Expenditures - \$85,500/One-Time
\$907,400/Recurring**

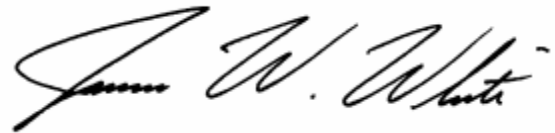
Assumptions:

- In 2007, there were 86,661 births in the state. The Department of Health estimates that 60 percent of all births could show signs of elevated bilirubin resulting in 52,000 cases.
- In order to test for bilirubin, the State Laboratory must have a whole blood specimen. The test cannot be performed on dried blood specimens which are currently sent to the Laboratory.
- Establishing a new system for performing the test would include hiring laboratory staff, obtaining equipment and technology, and setting up new procedures. The state's Newborn Screening Follow-up Program would also have to be revised.
- A Microbiologist 2 position will increase recurring state expenditures by \$75,783, including salary and benefits (\$61,683), administrative support services (\$7,900), communications and networking (\$1,500), office lease (\$4,100) and supplies (\$600). There will be a one-time increase in expenditures of \$4,400 for office set-up and a computer.
- There will be an increase in one-time expenditures for laboratory equipment of \$25,000 which includes two autoanalyzers (\$20,000) and five microcentrifuges (\$5,000). An additional one-time expenditure of \$25,000 will be incurred for computer upgrades.
- The laboratory will also incur an increase in recurring expenditures of \$220,000 for test kits (\$180,000), supplies (\$30,000), and equipment and software maintenance (\$10,000).

- Two Registered Nurse 4 positions for the follow-up on all cases required by the Newborn Follow-up Screening Program. These positions will increase recurring state expenditures by \$161,603, including salary and benefits (\$133,303), administrative support services (\$15,800), communications and networking (\$3,100), office lease (\$8,200) and supplies (\$1,200). There will be a one-time increase in expenditures of \$6,100 for office set-up and computers.
- There will be a one-time increase in expenditures for modifications to the Case Management System Module of \$25,000.
- Currently, the Department of Health contracts with five genetics centers statewide for referrals for long-term follow-up. It is estimated that these contracts will increase by \$90,000 each resulting in an increase in recurring expenditures of \$450,000 (\$90,000 x 5).

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director

/kml